

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the McLean County Board met on Tuesday, August 14, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 400, Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois.

Members Present: Vice Chairman Sorensen, Members Renner, Segobiano, Hoselton, Nuckolls, Owens and Gordon

Members Absent: Chairman Sweeney, Member Bostic

Other Members Present: None

Staff Present: Mr. John Zeunik, County Administrator; Mr. Terry Lindberg, Assistant County Administrator; Ms. Jude LaCasse, Assistant to the County Administrator

Department Heads/
Elected Officials Present: Mr. Craig Nelson, Director, Information Services;
Mr. Bill Yoder, State's Attorney

Others Present: Mr. Eric Ruud, First Assistant State's Attorney;
Mr. Marty Vanags, CEO, Economic Development Council of Bloomington/Normal/McLean County;
Mr. Chad Carson, Economic Development Council of Bloomington/Normal/McLean County

Vice Chairman Sorensen called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Vice Chairman Sorensen presented the minutes from the July 17, 2007 Executive Committee Meeting and the June 19, 2007 Stand-up Meeting for approval. Hearing no corrections to those minutes, Vice Chairman Sorensen advised that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

Vice Chairman Sorensen presented the Reappointments, Appointments and the Resignations to the Committee for approval. He stated that the appointment to the Ellsworth Fire Protection District will be removed from the Agenda at this time.

Motion by Owens/Nuckolls to Recommend Approval of the Reappointments, Appointment and the Resignations as amended by the Vice Chairman.
Motion carried.

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Vice Chairman Sorensen read a letter that was submitted by Board Chairman Mike Sweeney announcing his decision to resign as Chairman of the McLean County Board, effective 9:00 a.m., August 21, 2007. The letter cited personal reasons for his decision to step down after 6+ years as Chairman and 21 years on the Board. Chairman Sweeney will continue to represent District 3 on the County Board.

Vice Chairman Sorensen advised that this letter will be submitted to the County Clerk's Office first thing in the morning. He noted that this is an item of information for the Executive Committee and it will appear on the Consent Agenda of the County Board Agenda under "Resignations" for the full Board meeting.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked Mr. Bill Yoder, State's Attorney, to address the Committee to explain the next steps that must be taken to fill this vacancy.

Mr. Yoder stated that Chairman Sweeney contacted him regarding the procedures that need to be followed, pursuant to the law, in replacing the Chairman should the Chairman resign midterm. Mr. Yoder distributed a Memorandum that outlines the procedures that need to be followed to replace the Chairman of the McLean County Board.

Mr. Yoder explained that, under Illinois Law, if a vacancy occurs in the Office of the County Board Chairman in a County where board members are elected by districts, "the remaining members of the board shall elect one of the members of the board to serve for the balance of the unexpired term of the chairman."

Vice Chairman Sorensen announced that an election will be held to elect a new Chairman on Tuesday, August 21, 2007 to serve until the Organizational Meeting in December 2008.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Vice Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of a Resolution of the McLean County Board proclaiming the Week of September 1-8, 2007 as "*McLean County Barn Preservation Week.*"

Motion by Renner/Owens to Recommend Approval of
a Resolution of the McLean County Board
Proclaiming the week of September 1-8, 2007 as
"*McLean County Barn Preservation Week.*"
Motion carried.

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Vice Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of a Cabling Contract to provide Internet Access in the Law and Justice Center – Information Services.

Motion by Segobiano/Renner to Recommend Approval of a Cabling Contract to provide Internet Access in the Law and Justice Center – Information Services.

Mr. Gordon asked Mr. Nelson if he had any hesitations or reservations with the Contract. Mr. Nelson replied that he did not.

Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Sorensen presented a request for approval of an Application to Amend Boundaries of the Bloomington/Normal/McLean County Enterprise Zone to Add/ Delete Territory – County Administrator's Office.

Mr. Segobiano requested that the two Enterprise Zone items be acted upon together. Vice Chairman Sorensen replied that it would be appropriate to add the second request, which is for approval of an Ordinance Amending "An Ordinance Describing and Designating an area located partially within the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone."

Motion by Renner/Owens to Recommend Approval of an Application to Amend Boundaries of the Bloomington/ Normal/McLean County Enterprise Zone to Add/ Delete Territory – County Administrator's Office, and to Recommend Approval of an Ordinance Amending "An Ordinance Describing and Designating an area located partially within the City of Bloomington, the Town of Normal and Unincorporated McLean County as an Enterprise Zone."

Mr. Segobiano asked for an explanation of these Enterprise Zone requests. Mr. Zeunik explained that they pertain to the Twin Groves Wind Farm on the east side of the County. He indicated that the proposed application and amendment refines the legal description for the turbines that have been completed and built. Mr. Zeunik stated that the specific area that is part of the Enterprise Zone has been narrowed and identified. Since Twin Groves is now in Phase 2 construction, the application looks at the Phase 2 development. The net result of this annexation will be to reduce the Bloomington/Normal/McLean County Enterprise Zone by 3.46 square miles.

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Mr. Zeunik advised that, just after the beginning of the year, Phase 2 will be completed and there will then be a further reduction of Enterprise Zone area dedicated to the Twin Groves Wind Farm and additional acreage and square miles will be returned back to the Enterprise Zone.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked for a vote on the motion.

Motion carried.

Mr. Tari Renner, Chairman, Justice Committee, reported that the Justice Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Renner.

Mr. George Gordon, Chairman, Land Use and Development Committee reported that the Land Use and Development Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Ms. Paul Segobiano, Acting Chairman, Property Committee, reported that the Property Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Segobiano.

Mr. Stan Hoselton, Chairman, Transportation Committee, reported that the Transportation Committee brings no items for action to the Executive Committee.

Vice Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Mr. Bob Nuckolls, Acting Chairman, Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee brings three items for action to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Nuckolls presented a request for approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2007 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0105 – Health Department.

Motion by Nuckolls/Renner to recommend approval of an Emergency Appropriation Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2007 Combined Appropriation and Budget Ordinance for Fund 0105 – Health Department.
Motion carried.

Mr. Nuckolls presented a request for approval of a Resolution evidencing the intention of The County of McLean, Illinois, to issue Single Family Mortgage Revenue Bonds and related matters – County Administrator's Office.

Motion by Nuckolls/Gordon to recommend approval of a Resolution Evidencing the Intention of the County of McLean, Illinois, to Issue Single Family Mortgage Revenue Bonds and related matters – County Administrator's Office

Mr. Segobiano expressed some concern with the amount of some of the loans for new homes. He asked why there isn't a limit on the amount of the loans. Mr. Zeunik explained that the borrower must be a first-time home buyer who meets the income limits that are established. He stated that the home-buyer must be able to demonstrate to their financial institution that they qualify and, if they qualify, the financial institution can offer additional incentives to get them into a single family house. Mr. Zeunik advised that the interest rate is reduced because it is a tax-exempt borrowing, so the home-owner will receive a lower, fixed-rate mortgage.

Mr. Owens pointed out that this may be the first year where loans made to qualified borrowers are over the \$200,000.00 range. Mr. Zeunik added that this figure is likely to come down next year due to the constriction in the housing market. Mr. Segobiano stated that a million homes nation-wide have gone through foreclosures.

Motion carried.

Mr. Nuckolls presented a request for approval of a Settlement Agreement with Westfield Insurance Company for property coverage – Law and Justice Center explosion and fire – Risk Management.

Motion by Nuckolls/Gordon to Recommend Approval of the Settlement Agreement with Westfield Insurance Company for Property Coverage – Law and Justice Center Explosion and Fire – Risk Management.
Motion carried.

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Vice Chairman Sorensen asked if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he thanked Mr. Nuckolls.

Vice Chairman Sorensen presented the July 31, 2007 bills as recommended and transmitted by the County Auditor for payment. The Prepaid Total is \$380,070.12 and the fund total is the same.

Motion by Gordon/Renner to recommend approval of the Executive Committee bills for July 31, 2007 as presented to the Committee by the County Auditor.
Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith A. LaCasse
Recording Secretary